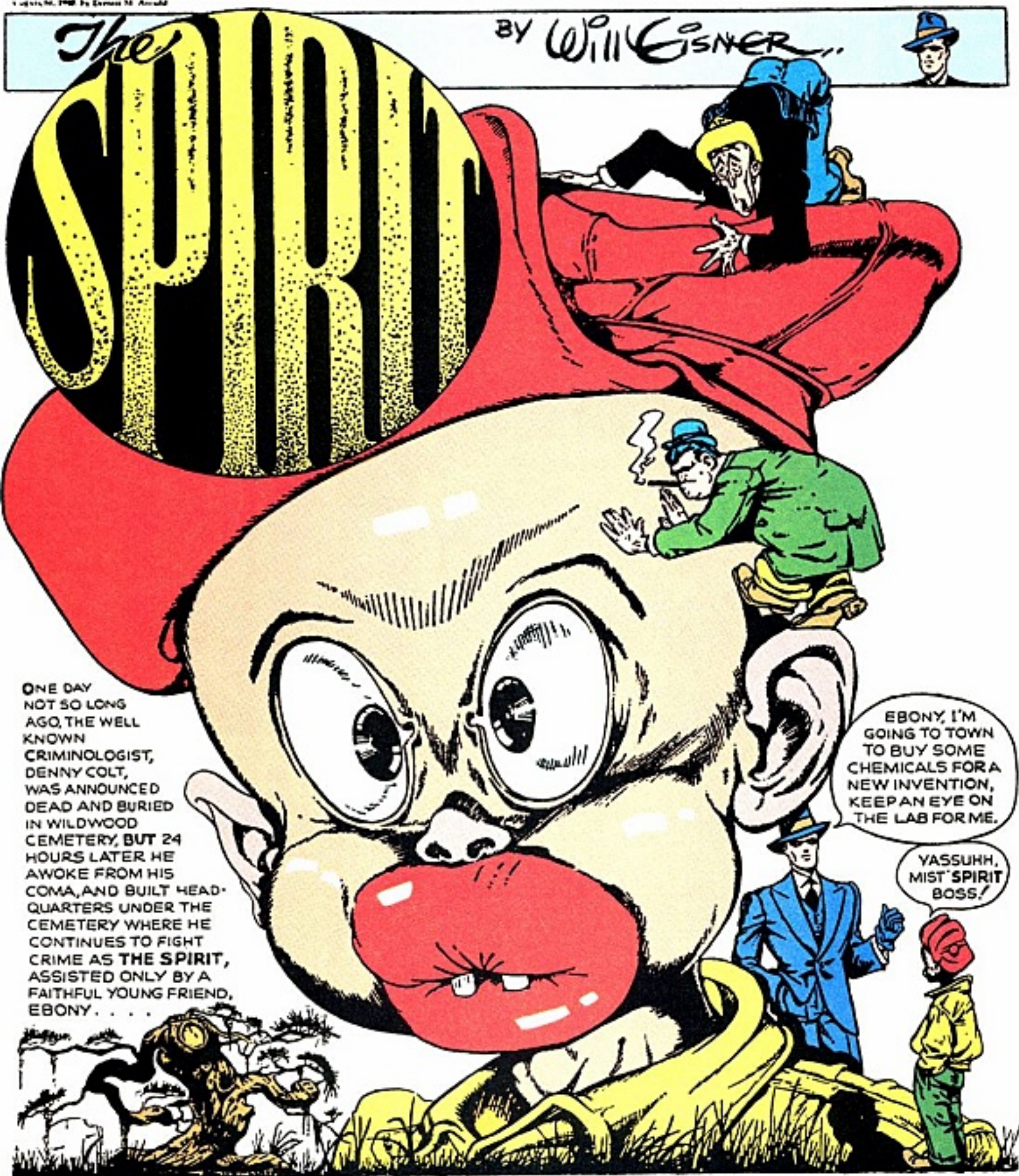


September 15, 1940

The

BY *Will Eisner*



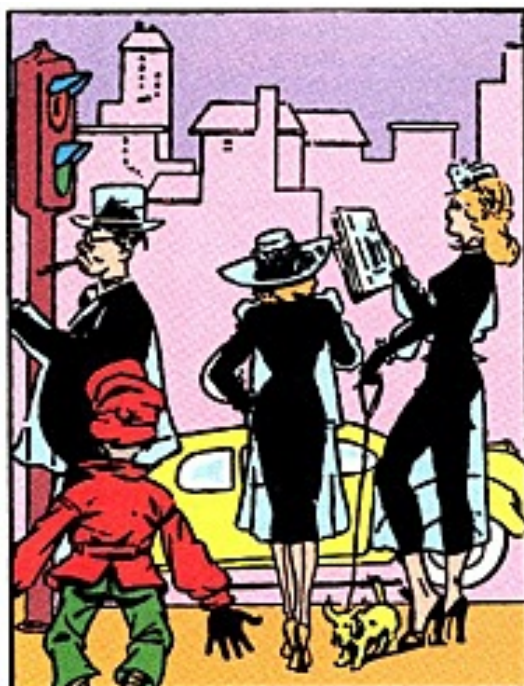
ONE DAY NOT SO LONG AGO, THE WELL KNOWN CRIMINOLOGIST, DENNY COLT, WAS ANNOUNCED DEAD AND BURIED IN WILDWOOD CEMETERY, BUT 24 HOURS LATER HE AWOKE FROM HIS COMA, AND BUILT HEAD-QUARTERS UNDER THE CEMETERY WHERE HE CONTINUES TO FIGHT CRIME AS **THE SPIRIT**, ASSISTED ONLY BY A FAITHFUL YOUNG FRIEND, EBONY. . . .

EBONY, I'M GOING TO TOWN TO BUY SOME CHEMICALS FOR A NEW INVENTION, KEEP AN EYE ON THE LAB FOR ME.

YASSUHH, MIST' SPIRIT BOSS!

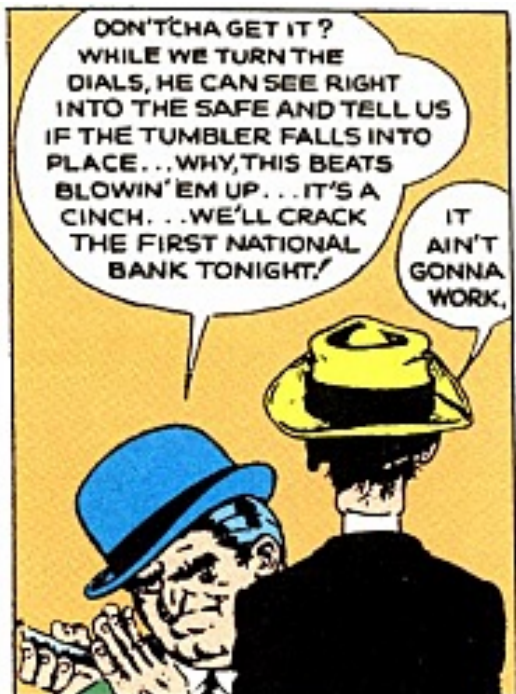


MEANWHILE LET'S FOLLOW POOR EBONY AS HE WANDERS THROUGH THE STREETS . . .



NOW, LET US LOOK IN ON TWO "GENTLEMEN OF CHANCE"





AT THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, THE SPIRIT, SEARCHING FOR EBONY, COMES UPON A CLUE



AT THE NEW BANK.



LATE THAT NIGHT IN THE BANK...



BUT AS EBONY LOOKS INTO THE VAULT...



GOLLY! IF DEY OPEN IT AND SEE HIM, DEY'LL SHOOT HIM! DEY GOT GUNS... AH GOT TO SAVE THE SPIRIT!



AH REFUSE TO DO IT... N-NO MATTER WHAT... EVEN IF YO' SHOOT ME.



SHOOTIN'S TOO GOOD FOR YOU, PUNK!



AFTER THEY LEAVE, EBONY RISES WEAKLY.



BUT.

HOLY JUMPIN' JEEHOSOPHAT! AH CAN'T SEE THINGS NOMO! AH JES SEES REVERSE NOW!



THE SPIRIT'LL NEVER GET OUTA THERE NOW... AH'LL GO GET SOME DYNAMITE TO BLOW IT OPEN!



WONDER WHAT'S KEEPING THOSE YEGGS? I HOPE NOTHING HAS HAPPENED TO EBONY!



WHILE EBONY IS GONE, THE CROOKS
RETURN WITH SMILEY AND NIFTY. . .



EBONY RETURNS. . .





THEY LEAVE JUST AS A PATROLMAN RUNS UP.



NEXT MORNING, BACK IN THE SAFETY OF WILDWOOD CEMETERY...

